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**SOURCE** Czechoslovak newspapers as indicated.

WEAKENED RAILROAD TUNNEL BEING REBUILT;  
NEW PASSENGER STEAMER TO GO INTO SERVICE

TUNNEL BEING REBUILT - Svobodno Slovo, No 78, 2 Apr 49

The railroad tunnel near Nova Paka on the Nova Paka-Ostromer line, which was built in 1944, threatened to collapse, and it was necessary to stop traffic. The PA 503 plant of the Czechoslovak Construction Factories began to repair the tunnel in July 1948. Three hundred and fifty explosive engineers, concrete workers, and helpers, of whom 160 are Slovaks, are working on it.

It was necessary to widen the side walls and the roof of the tunnel. The roof was divided into 43 sections, each 8 meters long. After tearing down the old walls and breaking away rock, the timber work is prepared. This wooden material is covered with heavy blocks having asbestos insulation on the back. The space between the new walls and the rock is filled in with stone and gravel. Tearing out a section with its timber work formerly took a month, whereas now it is completed in 17 days. Walling up a section has been shortened from 6 weeks to 5. The work will be finished by 15 June 1949. Fifteen shock groups are working on the project.

NEW BRIDGE IN PRAGUE - Srobedno Slovo, No 80, 5 Apr 45

A new bridge over the Vitava will be built near the Stefanik Bridge. A 4-centimeter steel cable 315 meters long, with a capacity of 35 metric centners, will be used in the construction. The opening for the concrete housing to anchor the cable can already be seen on the Letna side. It will be a hole 5 by 2.20 by 5.60 meters, and will contain about 60 metric centners of concrete, which represents a weight of 120 tons. It will have a maximum drop of 12 meters when loaded, and will be 26 meters above the water. A wooden tower is being completed on the other side. This will be 21 meters high, and will contain 20 tons of counterweight in the form of 1,700 paving blocks; it will secure the other end of the cable. A steel tower will be constructed opposite it, and the cable from the Letna side will go through this.

The caissons will be begun in a few days.

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AIR ROUTES REOPENED -- Obrana Lidu, No 1, 5 Apr 49

On 4 April 1949, the Czechoslovak Airlines reopened traffic on the Prague-Liberec and Prague-Ceske Budejovice lines. A plane leaves Liberec for Prague at 0600, and leaves Prague at 1720 for Liberec every day but Sunday. A plane leaves Prague for Ceske Budejovice at 0605 and leaves Prague at 1715 for Ceske Budejovice. The one-way fare from Prague to Liberec is 450 crowns and from Prague to Ceske Budejovice, 500 crowns.

NEW PASSENGER STEAMSHIP - Rude Pravo, No 83, 8 Apr 49

A new passenger steamship is being built in Prague and will go into service in the latter half of May. This ship being built for the Prague Shipping Company by the shipyards of the Ceskomoravska Kolben-Danek in Liben, Prague, is 56 meters long and 9 meters wide.

This ship is the first addition to the Czechoslovak domestic shipping fleet in 9 years.

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